

**THE UNITED ASBESTOS
ORIENTAL AGENCY**

Sole Agents for the
**UNITED ASBESTOS COM
PANY, LTD LONDON**
DODWELL & Co., LIMITED.
General Agents

General Agents.

THIRTY DOLLARS
PER ANNUM

Intimations

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND
MORTGAGE CO., LIMITED.

THE SECOND ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the **COMPANY'S OFFICE**, No. 1, Prince of Wales Street, on **FRIDAY**, the 17th February, 1899, for the purpose receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ending 31st December, 1898, declaring a Dividend and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The **TRANSFER BOOK** of the Company will be **CLOSED** from the 1st to 17th February, 1899, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 17th January, 1899. [88a]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the **ORDINARY HALF-YEARLY MEETING** of the **SHAREHOLDERS** in this Corporation will be held at the **CITY HALL, Hongkong**, on **SATURDAY**, the **18th day of February** next, at **NOON**, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors together with a Statement of Account to 31st December, 1868.

By Order of the Court of Directors,
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 24th January, 1899. [121a]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK-
ING CORPORATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the **REGISTERS OF SHARES** of the Corporation will be **CLOSED** from **SATURDAY, the 4th to the 18th day of February next, (both Days inclusive)** during which **Period NO TRANSFER** of Shares can be Registered.

By Order of the Court of Directors,
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 24th January, 1890. 1122

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON
WHARF AND GODOWN CO.,
LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE TWELFTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in above Company will be held at the COMPANY'S OFFICE, No. 4, Praya Central, at 11 o'clock, on MONDAY, the 20th February, for the purpose of electing Directors and Auditors, and for the receipt of dividends.

for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1898.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 10th to the 20th instant, both days inclusive.

EDWARD OSBORNE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 4th February, 1899. [170a

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK
COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS
THE ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING

of SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the Offices of the Company, No. 14, Praya Central, on MONDAY, the 27th February, 1899, at 12 o'clock Noon for the Purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts to the 31st December.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 13th to 27th February, both days inclusive.
By Order of the Board of Directors,

THOS. I. ROSE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 1st February, 1899. [153a]

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO.,
LIMITED.

THE THIRTIETH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company, will be

held at the OFFICES of the Company, Pedder's Street, on WEDNESDAY, the 1st day of March, 1899, at 12 o'clock (NOON), to receive a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1898, and the Report of the General Managers, and to elect a Consulting

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company, will be CLOSED from the 15th February to the 1st March, both days inclusive.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1899. [146a]

Auction.

PUBLIC AUCTION.
THE Undersigned has received instructions
to Sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION,
at Bicton, Plantation Road, the Peak, the Re-
sidence of Mr. H. T. MEYERINK,
ON
WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY, the 15th February, 1899,
Commencing at 2.30 P.M.
THE WHOLE OF THE
FINE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE
All Nearly New.
Comprising:—

Very Fine TEAR-COVERED READING
ROOM FURNITURE, LEATHER COVER-
ED and BOOKCASES and WRITING
DESK to which CURTAINS, CARPETS,
TAIR CARPETS, SIDEBOARD, WHAT

NOTS, MARBLE TOP VERANDA
TABLES, CHAIRS, EASY CHAIRS, HALL
TABLES, IRON BEDSTEADS with Spring
Mattresses, BATHTUBS, WARDROBES,
Painting, PICTURES and BRONZE GLASS

&c., &c., &c.
 A Lot of New TABLE LINEN—unused.
 Several Fine Marble and HALL CLOCK.

On view from Sunday, the 12th Feb. A.C.
Catalogues are to be had at the house or from
undersigned.

TERMS OF SALE — As customary
— **BATH, BREVINT**

Hongkong, 5th February, 1900. Auctioneer.

Today's Advertisements.

BIJOU THEATRE.

RECLAMATION GROUND, WEST POINT.

TO-NIGHT
(THURSDAY), the 9th February, 1899.
Last Night but three of
"ROBINSON CRUSOE."

MATINEE TO-MORROW (FRIDAY) NIGHT
MATINEE SATURDAY, 10th & 11th FEBRUARY.
MATINEE NIGHT
MATINEE NIGHT
MATINEE NIGHT
GRAND HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES.

2 SHOWS DAILY at 4 P.M. & 9 P.M. — 2

MONDAY, the 13th February, 1899.
"BLUE BEARD."
"BLUE BEARD."
"BLUE BEARD."

PRICES AS USUAL.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1899. [118a]

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

PEARSON CUP AND SPOONS.

A COMPETITION for the above will be held on SATURDAY, the 11th instant, at 3 P.M.
RANGE—200, 300 and 600 yards.
Seven Shots and one Sighter.
Conditions as usual.

MOWBRAY'S NORTHCOTE,
Hon. Sec.
Hongkong, 9th February, 1899. [135]

LECTURE.

MR. J. J. FRANCIS, Q.C., has kindly consented to deliver an address, in the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ROOM, on MONDAY, the 13th February, at 5.15 P.M., on "Spheres of Influence and the Open Door."
The MEETING will be open to the Public and Ladies are invited.

Mr. T. JACKSON will take the chair.
HENRY E. POLLOCK,
Hon. Secretary.

HONGKONG ODD VOLUMES SOCIETY.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1899. [199a]

FOUND.

SEVERAL pieces of JEWELLERY, &c., at the VOLUNTEERS BALL on the 7th instant, can be obtained on application to C. M. SEAR, G. WATLING at VOLUNTEER HEADQUARTERS.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1899. [197a]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship

"HATTAN,"

Captain Roach, will be despatched for the above ports, on TUESDAY, the 14th instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LARRAIK & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1899. [200a]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR TIENTSIN.

THE Company's Steamship

"KWEIYANG,"

Captain Overbridge, will be despatched as above on SATURDAY, the 25th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1899. [198a]

NORDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "SACHSEN."

THE above named Steamer having arrived, consignees of Goods are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notices to the contrary be given before Noon, TO-DAY.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 16th instant, will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on TUESDAY, the 16th instant, at 9.30 A.M.

All Claims must reach us before the 26th instant, or they will not be recognized.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

MEICHERS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1899. [154a]

To be Let.

TO LET.

SEMI-DETACHED VILLA RESIDENCES on Bowen Road (now in course of erection).

PROPERTY now occupied by the Bowington Saw Mills.

FLOORS in STANTON and ELGIN STREETS.

"BAHAR LODGE."

No. 4, RUPON TERRACE.

"HARFORD," MAGAZINE GAP, Comfortably furnished.

Apply to THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., Ltd.

Hongkong, 31st January, 1899. [12]

Hotel.

WINDSOR HOTEL, HONGKONG.

THIS ESTABLISHMENT, situated in the elegant Building known as "CONNAUGHT HOUSE," offers First-class Accommodation to Residents and Travellers.

Passenger Elevator from Entrance Hall to each Floor, in charge of experienced Attendant.

Very favorable Arrangements made for Families and for Monthly or Extended Periods.

P. BOHM, Proprietor & Manager.

Hongkong, 3rd April, 1899. [1]

Intimation.



A. S. WATSON & Co., LIMITED.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

ESTABLISHED 1841.

PORTS

(For Invalids and General Use.)

B.—VINTAGE, superior quality, Red Capsule \$14.40

C.—FINE OLD VINTAGE, superior quality, Black Seal Capsule..... 10.20

D.—VERY FINE OLD VINTAGE extra superior, Violet Capsule (Old Bottled) 20.40

Port after removal should be rested for a month before use. Wine required for drinking at once should be ordered to be decanted at the Dispensary before being sent out. These Wines are so favourably known to need comment.

Sample bottles and smaller quantities will be supplied at proportionate wholesale rates.

We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony or from our authorised Agents at the Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Limited, THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

BIRTH.

At Batu Gajah, Perak, on the 28th January, the wife of H. F. NUTTER, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 24th January, at the Presbyterian Church, Singapore, by the Rev. S. S. Walker, ALEXANDER SIM, ARAH, to MAUDE FLORENCE, seventh daughter of S. Franklin, Esq., Bow, London.

On the 31st January, at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, by the Ven. Archdeacon Perham, Capt. HENRY SANDS ANSLIE, 5th (Northumberland) Fusiliers, son of William Anslie, Torquay, Devonshire, late Indian Civil Service, to LILIAN ELIZABETH, daughter of James Lyall, of Singapore.

THE Hongkong-Cricket-Club will play the Navy to-morrow and Saturday, at 11.30 a.m. each day. Great difficulty has been experienced in getting up a Club team. The following have promised to play:—Capt. Langhorne, Rev. G. R. Vallings, A. G. Ward, K. G. Campbell, G. D. Campbell, Capt. Dyson, H. Hill, Lieut. Castle, R.A., W. A. Woodcock. Volunteers are wanted for the two vacant places—to be on Ground at 11.30.

D'Arc's Marionettes are still drawing crowded houses to their pretty Bijou Theatre on the Reclamation Ground. We are informed that the pantomime "Robinson Crusoe" is only to remain on for the remainder of the week and on Monday "Blue Beard" will be substituted. Those who have not yet seen these wonderful marionettes had better take an early opportunity and do so as the present pantomime will not be reproduced during their stay in Hongkong. On Friday and Saturday matinee performances will be given so as to enable the Chinese to spend an enjoyable afternoon during their holidays.

Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly and Potts in their weekly share report state—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have experienced a further sharp advance, and have been placed at rates between 288 and 295 per cent. premium; and at the rate a few shares are obtainable. The London quotation is £61. Nationals; a fair number have changed hands at \$20 and \$20½ and are still offering at the latter rate. Marine Insurance.—China Traders have been sold at \$65. Fire Insurance.—Remain unchanged. Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats have been taken off the market at \$26½ and close steady at the rate. Indo-China have improved their position; a fair business has been transacted at \$66, \$66½, \$67 and \$67½, and more are obtainable at the latter quotation. Douglas Steamships remain steady with sales and buyers at \$58. China and Manillas are still enquired for at \$95. Star Ferries have again been negotiated at \$124. Refineries.—China Sugars have continued in request, and sales have been effected at \$174 and \$175. Luzons are steady at \$52. Mining.—Punjoms are obtainable at \$6. Raub has fluctuated between \$60 and \$63, with sales at latter rate. Queen Mines have been done at \$1.05 and \$1.10, closing steady. Jelebus have been placed to a large extent at \$6, \$6½, \$6¾, \$7 and \$7.40, and are still in demand. Great Eastern and Caledonians have been booked at \$94 and \$93½. Olivers are at the market at \$5½. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have experienced a further sharp rise, and have advanced from 306 per cent to 316 per cent. premium, with sales at intermediate rates. Kowloon Wharf shares have been fixed at \$86, \$87 and \$88. Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands have again been dealt in at \$78. Humphreys' Estate have changed hands at \$94. China Providents have been sold at \$94. Cotton Mills.—With the exception of Hongkong Cottons, which are in demand at \$84, there is no business to report. Miscellaneous.—Green Island Cements (new) have been done at \$26½ and A. S. Watsons have been sold and are wanted at \$13½.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Netherole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Fresh Fish Guild \$30

Fruit and Vegetable Guild 50

The following football game is to be played on Saturday: Kick-off at 4.30 prompt. "V.R.C." v. "H.M.S. Bonaventure." V.R.C. team: Goal—Brett. Backs—Tuohy and Cameron. Halves—Gonsalves, Craig and Corveth. Forwards—Seith, Henderson, Yule, Sutton and Rose.

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VICTORIA GAOL.

CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT MAY'S REPORT FOR 1898.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council yesterday afternoon the report of the Superintendent of Victoria Gaol for 1898 was submitted. We give the following extract from it:—

The number of prisoners admitted to the Gaol during the past year under sentence of the ordinary Courts was 4,976, besides 69 soldiers and sailors sentenced by Courts Martial. There were 51 persons imprisoned for debt and 531 in default of finding security, making a total of 5,477. Of these 786 were old offenders, including 13 juveniles who were merely sent to the Gaol to be whipped by order of the Magistrate, and were detained pending the infliction of the whipping, leaving a total of 747 old offenders who actually underwent imprisonment.

There were altogether 69 juveniles sent to the Gaol merely to be whipped and arrangements have now been made with the sanction of the Government by which such juveniles are whipped immediately on reception in the outer court of the Gaol. They do not now enter the Gaol nor are they detained beyond the time actually necessary for whipping.

The corresponding numbers for the preceding year were respectively as follows:—Convicted by the ordinary Courts 4,711, by Courts Martial 48, Debtors 54, in default of finding security 263; total 5,076, including 606 old offenders.

The daily average number of prisoners confined in the Gaol during the year was 511, as compared with 465 for 1897.

With a view to decreasing the number of prisoners confined in Gaol in default of payment of fines, I have suggested legislation such as has recently been introduced at home, allowing part payment of a fine to be equivalent to serving a proportionate part of the sentence of imprisonment in default.

There were 4,038 reports made by Prison Officers against prisoners for offences against Prison discipline, as compared with 2,619 reports for the previous year.

A proportion of the increase is directly due to the increased population of the Gaol in 1898, and I attribute the remainder of the increased reports to the following conditions which rendered difficult the enforcement of strict discipline:—

(a) The location of a larger number of prisoners in Association while the work of sub-division of the cells, which is referred to in paragraph 8, was in progress.

(b) The interruption of the regular routine of labour by this and other structural improvements on a large scale that have been carried out during the year.

(c) The numerous changes in the Indian Gaol staff to which I have alluded in C.S.O. 1647/1897. Discipline cannot be maintained by inexperienced officers.

Retains show a considerable increase in assaults on each other, on Prison Officers, by prisoners, and in the offence of having tobacco. The number of cases of assault on Prison Officers was two, which is below the average.

The number of assaults by prisoners on each other shows a large increase. The assaults were, however, with one exception, of a trivial nature, and arose out of petty disputes between prisoners engaged together on unaccustomed work in connection with the structural alterations, and in addition to the Gaol.

The increase in the offence of having tobacco is due to the fact that at various periods during the year, there were a certain number of free men engaged on work in the Gaol.

The following improvements, referred to in paragraph 16 of my Report for 1897, have been completed during the year under review almost entirely by prison labour at what must be regarded as the small cost of \$15,000:—

(a) On the site of D wing, a large two-storied workshop has been erected, the upper floor of which is a printing shop while the ground floor is devoted to mat making.

The workshop was much needed, and has rendered possible a useful extension of industrial labour.

(b) The sub-division of Association cells into separate cells has been completed. There are now 427 separate cells in the Gaol, and 26 Association cells giving accommodation for 453 prisoners in separate confinement, and for 104 extra prisoners by placing 5 prisoners in each Association cell, or a total of 557 prisoners.

(c) The Officers' quarters inside the Gaol have been converted into a commodious hospital, and offices for the Chief Warden and Clerks, but the hospital is still occupied by the Indian Staff pending the building of quarters for them outside the Gaol.

(d) What was formerly the Chief Warden's and Clerks' offices, has been turned into a reception room with cells attached.

(e) The old hospital, which is above the female Prison, has been prepared for the reception of female prisoners as an extension to the existing female Prison. It is, however, still occupied by male prisoners pending the removal of the hospital to the new accommodation provided for it.

(f) Certain alterations in the yards round A and D halls (the Gaol extension) have been made to prevent escapes, and a useful addition to the yards space between the two halls has been secured.

The following improvements are being now effected by Prison labour, having been undertaken before the end of the year:—

In the Lower East Yard the ramp is being entirely removed affording a site for a new and enlarged laundry, which it is proposed to build, and additional yard space for the laundry work, while the old laundry will be converted into a shed for general labour.

When the above work has been completed, it is proposed to demolish B wing and to erect in its place a new hall. B wing contains 15 Association cells and 2 separate cells. The new Ward would contain 76 separate cells, and being much more compact, would enable an increase in space in the Upper Yard. It is also proposed to cover in the centre of the Upper Yard as a protection against sun and rain in summer time.

With the erection of the proposed new Ward, the Gaol would contain four separate cells and 11 Association cells, the latter being capable of accommodating 55 prisoners, or a total of 556.

The Gaol could then be conducted almost entirely on the separate system.

The fact that the capacity of the Gaol accommodation does not exceed 557 prisoners is one that should not be lost sight of, and when it is remembered that it is necessary to have space accommodation in the Gaol to meet the demands of any emergency, it is evident that with a rapidly growing population and the acquisition of new territory, the question of increasing the Gaol accommodation for the Colony is one that already demands the attention of Government.

During the year one Chinese prisoner succeeded in escaping, and two others attempted to escape, but were re-captured by Prison officers, by scaling the boundary wall of the Gaol extension.

Structural additions have now been made which will render escapes from the same locally very difficult.

The profits on industrial labour amounted to \$6,204.10, as compared with \$4,600.03 in the preceding year. The increase is principally due to the extension of the Printing Department which now executes the job printing required by the Government and the Military Authorities.

A statement of the casualties that occurred in the Gaol Staff during the year is annexed. The large number of resignations in the Indian Staff was due to the men throwing up their appointment to seek more lucrative employment elsewhere.

Vacancies in the European Staff have, with one exception, that of a Hospital Warden, been filled by local candidates drawn from the Army. Some promising officers have been thus acquired.

The year has been an exceptionally busy one in the Gaol, and the large works referred to in paragraph 8, carried out as they were, simultaneously with a high daily average, and at times excessive number of prisoners—the daily average in July was 559 and on two occasions during that month the number reached 589—entailed a great deal of new and unaccustomed work on officers.

Credit is due to all for their share in the labour, but the service rendered by the Chief Warden in immediately directing and supervising the work deserves special notice.

Mr. Craig assisted me with many valuable suggestions in connection with the various works; and to his technical knowledge and unflinching industry and resource is largely due the successful accomplishment of an undertaking of no small magnitude.

SINGAPORE AND THE SOUTH.

(From Straits Papers.)

POLO FOR SINGAPORE.

A public meeting was held at Singapore on the 30th ult. for the purpose of forming a Polo Club.

END OF A COMPANY.

The Bukit Mas Company of Tapha has finally ceased operations, and the plant, etc., is to be sold by public auction.

NEW DRILL INSTRUCTOR.

A sergeant of the West Yorkshire regiment has been appointed drill instructor to the Singapore police force. He was sworn in on the 1st inst.

HANGKOK RICE.

It appears that rice-millers at Bangkok are not so sanguine about the rice crop this year. This has been emphasized by the fact that rice is not coming down in such quantities as during last year.

CHICKEN POX.

Chicken-pox has broken out at Tanjong Majin, says the *Pekin Pioneer*, and its first victim was the barber of the village. The dresser is reported to have taken all precautions, and has isolated the case.

(THE SINGAPORE FIRST MAGISTRATE.

Mr. J. B. Elcum, the Acting First Magistrate, gave fifteen months' leave about the middle of February. Mr. Brockman will take up the duties of the First Court.

NEW GAME OF CHANCE.

A newly invented game of chance with dice is now in great popularity among Chinese women in Penang. The game is known as "Pat-Min" in Chinese, meaning "eight faces." The bankers and croupiers are all women.

ENGINEERING IN SELANGOR.

Now that the engineering work open to private firms in Selangor is not sufficient to keep two shops employed, a new company is being formed under the title of the Federated Engineering Co., Ltd., which will take over both the businesses in High Street, Kuala Lumpur.

ACCIDENT AT PENANG.

A Kling brass-gilder, while at his work in Penang recently, somehow or other spilt some water on a pot of melted tin and so caused the liquid metal to fly all over his body, inflicting severe injuries. His right eye was so much scalded that it is feared he will ever lose the use of it. He was carried home by his friends in a riksha.

SPURIOUS PARTNERS.

Two Chinamen have been arrested at Singapore for cheating in falsely representing themselves as partners in the Chop "Leng Bee" and thus obtaining eighty bags of rice, valued at \$472, from one firm, from another 160 bags, worth \$1,085, and from a third firm 78 bags, of the value of 4461. They were brought up on 2nd inst.; the hearing was postponed till the 8th, being fixed at \$1,000, \$1,500, and \$1,000 each on the three charges respectively.

SWEARING IN FORM.

A Chinese female servant at Singapore summoned her employers for recovery of forty-two dollars wages. The defendants denied the claim. The plaintiff challenged them to "cut a fowl's head," and said that if they did so, she would forego her claim. The parties went to the Court compound. Two candles were lighted, and the defendants lighted two joss sticks each. A chopping board and a parang were produced. The male defendant then called down dire curses upon himself, if he was not stating the truth; and a blow severed the fowl's head. The female defendant repeated this, and the parties went away apparently satisfied.

BRITISH NORTH BORNEO.

Mr. Henry Walker, Commissioner of Lands in British North Borneo, has written a letter to a friend in Ceylon, recommending that Territory as a field for planting enterprise, especially in coconuts and Para-rubber. He says that the tobacco crop there, last year, averaged the heaviest known per acre, in addition to excellence in quality. Libenian coffee was looking up, and the quantity exported, this year, is expected to be larger than that forwarded last year. He thinks that, at the present time, North Borneo offers a profitable field for young men with a little capital.

A RESCUE BY ITALIAN BLUE JACKETS. As a Marine Department gig was returning from putting the mails on board the *Indra Maru* at Singapore on the 30th inst., a sudden squall came on and capsized the gig. Three boats immediately put off from the Italian man-of-war *Elba* and rescued the gig and her crew. These men speak in grateful terms of the kindness they were shown on board the *Elba*, where they received every attention and were afterwards sent on shore in one of the man-of-war's boats.

On the 1st inst. a Chinaman went to a house in Hallpike Street, Singapore, and bargained for a ship's fender, stating that he would send another man to pay for it. Shortly afterwards he returned, with two other men, seized the inmate, a woman, and rubbed pepper into her eyes. They then locked the woman up in a room, and stole clothing and jewellery to the value of \$515. The woman managed to escape over the partition of the room in which she was confined, and raised an alarm. Two of the thieves were subsequently arrested by the marine police. Each man had jewellery in his possession, and was found to be wearing two or three suits of clothing stolen from the house.

THE FATE OF COFFEE.

The *Malay Mail* thinks that coffee planters are indeed to be pitied. The market price of coffee has fallen to such a price that it is impossible to grow it at a profit, while hosts of caterpillars are now playing fearful havoc on some estates, whole trees being stripped absolutely bare of all leaves. The planters have to make up their minds as to the utility or otherwise of going on. It seems to us contemporary that the only hope of financial salvation lies in coconuts, and from an economical point of view taking up land along the sea shore would be to their advantage, a small gang of men only being retained to keep down the lalang on their coffee estates.

TRADE OF THE STRAITS. The import and export returns of the Colony for the third quarter of 1898 have been issued. The imports show thus on comparison with the corresponding quarter of 1897:—

3rd Quarter 1898.....\$62,768,264=£6,074,861
3rd Quarter 1897.....\$53,667,644=£5,030,370

Increase in Dollars...\$9,600,620
Increase in Sterling...£1,044,491

Singapore's increase is about \$7,000,000. Penang's increase comes nearly to \$4,000,000. Malacca shows a decrease.

The export comparisons come thus:—
3rd Quarter 1898.....\$50,583,682=£4,900,295
3rd Quarter 1897.....\$48,139,710=£4,563,258

Increase in Dollars...\$2,443,972
Increase in Sterling...£237,037

The figures for Singapore show an increase of over \$1,000,000. An increase of \$1,100,000 comes under the head of Penang. Malacca's exports decreased. The exchange rates taken are 1/11 1/2 for 1898 and 1/10 1/2 for 1897.

A RECORD "RIGHT AND LEFT." The following, from a private letter written by Mr. F. Weld, will interest all big game sportsmen:—

"I got a right and left at rhinoceros on the 22nd inst. near Batu Gajah. I dropped the first with one shot through the brain (but fired a second barrel later on to make sure), and the second one made a run into the thicker jungle. I fired at it with my left barrel and raked it right through. We followed it up for about a mile and a half and saw where it had been lying down in three different places. On coming up to it I fired four more shots before killing it.

The bigger one measured to ft. long from nose to tip of tail (which is about six inches long only) and stood 4 ft. 10 inches in height. The height of the smaller one was 4 ft. 5 inches at the shoulder. I used a double 12-bore rifle, spherical hardened bullet, and 63 drams powder. I thought this might interest you as I believe a right and left at rhinoceros is a record, certainly for the Straits."

GIBRALTAR.

From the report on Gibraltar for the past year, which has just been published, it seems that the revenue amounted to 1,652,781 pesetas, derived mainly from port dues, Customs, office fees, and posts and telegraphs, while the expenditure was 1,531,784 pesetas. Wines, spirits, and such liquors are the only dutiable articles. The returns show that the decline in shipping has been arrested, and this, it is said, is due to increased facilities given to vessels calling for coal or orders. It is hoped that the amount of shipping visiting the port will still further increase, as the port dues have been diminished and new wharves will shortly be open to traffic. "The facilities afforded by the new works for coaling alongside a wharf in sheltered waters, at any hour by day or night, will be unsurpassed anywhere, while the reduction in the port dues already effected, which makes Gibraltar a cheap port as any in the Mediterranean, adds to its advantages as a port of call for orders or for coal. Besides the works directly intended for the improvement of the shipping facilities, others to increase the supply of drinking water are making good progress, and before long the plentiful supply of fresh water for the shipping will greatly add to the advantages of the port."

DUELLING WHOLESALERS.

HUNGARIAN HOTHEADS AT WAR.

The opposition ran out against Baron Banffy, the Premier, has set the Hungarian Parliament by the ears. M. Haronsky attacked the Baron in the Chamber of Deputies on the 9th December, declaring that he had broken faith with the National party. When a challenge followed, he declined a meeting unless it were entered on the record of the proceedings that the Baron's seconds declined to listen to terms, and he impudently cowardly to M. Haronsky, who accordingly challenged him. Both declined until their principals' honour was satisfied. Meantime, the seconds all met and fought. Count Stephen Karolyi and another entered the lists for M. Haronsky, while Baron Banffy was represented by the Minister of National Defences and another. Three encounters took place on the 13th. In the first, one shot missed and the other pistol failed. In another case, where swords were used, the Baron's man was wounded on the right hand, and his opponent's head bled profusely from a couple of severe wounds. In the third case, both combatants were wounded. M. Haronsky on the 15th, challenged the seconds who acted for Baron Banffy's seconds. The affair is still unsettled and a court of honour must decide how far the suspension of the original quarrel affects the settlement of the others. Altogether, ten affairs of honour have resulted. The reaction of public opinion is strongly in favour of Baron Banffy, who is now considered to be the victim of an unscrupulous conspiracy.

NOTANDA.

CALENDAR.

Meteorological means based on ten years' observations to 1897.

Barometer.....30.141
Thermometer.....57.3
Humidity.....79.0
Rainfall.....1.76

TO-DAY.

Barometer.....30.23
Thermometer.....63
Humidity.....68
Rainfall.....—

TO-DAY.

Thurs., 9th February, 1899.
Chinese—29th of 12th moon of 25th year of Kwang-shi.

Sun—Rises.....6hr. 25min.
Sets.....5hr. 35min.
Moon—In Perigee 10hr. p.m.
High water—Morning.....6hr. 30min.
Afternoon.....5hr. 20min.
Low water—Morning.....5hr. 30min.
Afternoon.....4hr. 20min.

ANNIVERSARIES.
1555—Bishop Hooper burnt.
1857—The *Henrietta* found drifting about in Palawan Passage; captain, crew and 250 coolies missing.
1891—Destructive fire at Kowloon City.

TO-MORROW.
Friday, 10th February, 1899.
(China New Year.)
Chinese—1st of 1st moon of 26th year of Kwang-shi.

Sun—Rises.....6hr. 25min.
Sets.....5hr. 35min.
Moon—New Moon 5hr. 30min. a.m.
High water—Morning.....6hr. 30min.
Afternoon.....5hr. 20min.
Low water—Morning.....5hr. 30min.
Afternoon.....4hr. 20min.

ANNIVERSARIES.
1795—Kien-lung, Emperor of China, died in the 60th year of his reign.

1840—Queen Victoria married.
1846—Russian Marines sent from Chemoilpo to protect the Legation at Seoul.

1898—The Spanish Minister at Washington resigned.

Saturday, 11th February, 1899.
Chinese—2nd of 1st moon of 26th year of Kwang-shi.

Sun—Rises.....6hr. 22min.
Sets.....5hr. 37min.
Moon—Morning.....6hr. 30min.
Afternoon.....5hr. 20min.
High water—Morning.....6hr. 30min.
Afternoon.....5hr. 20min.
Low water—Morning.....5hr. 30min.
Afternoon.....4hr. 20min.

ANNIVERSARIES.
1841—Emperor Tao-Kwang rejected Treaty.
1858—The demands of the Allies forwarded to Peking by Lord Elgin.

1873—Abdication of King Amadeus of Spain.
1885—The s.s. *Douglas* lost on White Rocks.
1889—The Japanese constitution granting representative Government proclaimed by the Emperor in person at Tokio.

1896—Murder of the Korean Ministers at Seoul.
1897—Greece informed the Powers that she could no longer remain a mere spectator of events in Crete.

1898—The Chinese Government granted the right to extend the Barmah Railway in Yunnan.

SHIPPING AND MAIL NEWS.

MAILS DUE.
Indian (*Koh-i-nur*) 11th inst.
French (*Caledonien*) 14th inst.

American (*Doric*) 15th inst.
Australian (*Airline*) 17th inst.
Canadian (*Empress of Japan*) 21st inst.
American (*Nippon Maru*) 22nd inst.
Am.ican (*City of Rio de Janeiro*) 2nd prox.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Mikasa Maru* (Bombay Line) left Singapore for this port on the 7th, and is expected to arrive here on the 13th inst.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Tosa Maru* (Europe Line) left Kobe via Moji for this port yesterday, the 8th, and is expected to arrive here on the 15th inst.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK RETURNS.
H.G.M.S. *Kaiser*... at Kowloon Dock.
H.G.M.S. *K. A'ua*... " " "
Athena... " " "
Isla de Cuba... " " "
Isla de Luzon... " " "
Monmouthshire... " " "
Reeddale... " " "
St. Enoch... " " "
Stut... " " "
H.G.M.S. *P. W'helm*... " " "
D. Juan d'Austria... " Cosmopolitan "
Daphne... " " "
China... " " "
Phra Nang... " " "

PASSED THE CANAL.
Outward—Jan. 13th *Liv. Haiching, Hansa, Huen*; Jan. 17th *Benarig*; Jan. 20th *Caledonien, Konigsberg*; Jan. 27th *Canton, Troid*; Jan. 31st *Orlamont*; Feb. 3rd *Chingwei, Indragati, Prometheus, Anapa*; Feb. 7th *Harperley, Homeward*; Feb. 7th *Flinthire, Salavie, Poliphemus, Siberia*.

CONSUMPTION, Wasting Diseases, and General Debility. Doctors disagree as to the relative value of Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites; the one supplying strength and flesh—the others giving nerve power and acting as a tonic to the digestion and entire system. But in Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites the two are combined, and the effect is wonderful. Thousands who have derived no permanent benefit from other preparations have been cured by this. "Scott's Emulsion" is perfectly palatable, and is easily digested even by those who cannot tolerate plain Cod Liver Oil. Any Chemist can supply it. Sole Agents for Hongkong and the Empire of China:—Watkins & Co., Hongkong.—*Advt.*

THE OFFICES of the above Companies have been this Day REMOVED to the New Building on Connaught Road, the Reclamation. J. S. VAN BUREN, Agent.

Hongkong, 6th February, 1899. [183a]

KUHN & KOMOR, JAPANESE FINE ART GURUS, 21 & 23, QUEEN'S ROAD, HONGKONG, 35, WATER STREET, YOKOHAMA and 36, DIVISION STREET, KOBE.

Hongkong, 15th March, 1898. [42]

LEVY HERMANOS. DIAMOND MERCHANTS, JEWELLERS AND WATCHMAKERS. Sole Agents in the East for the amalgamated CLEMENT, HUMBER and GLADIATOR CO., LD., DUNLOP TYRES' BICYCLES—PRICE \$185. A special reliable Watch made for this Climate. Quality A.....\$16
Quality B.....\$12

21) QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Opposite the Telegraph Office.

THE LEADING CATERERS. COMPARE OUR MEMU, BILLIARD TABLES and LIQUORS to all others. THE GRILL ROOM. Hongkong, 1st September, 1897. [39]

Masonic. A REGULAR MEETING of the VICTORIA PRECEPTORY will be held at the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on THURSDAY, the 9th inst., at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting Sir Knights are cordially invited to attend. Hongkong, 8th February, 1899. [104a]

THE BEST VALUE IN THE COLONY FOR GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS. THE MUTUAL STORES. 26, 28 & 30, POTTINGER STREET. Hongkong, 26th December, 1898. [103b]

Intimations.

CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

THE Undermentioned BANKS will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business, TO-MORROW and SATURDAY, the 10th and 11th instants, respectively. For the CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA, T. E. SANSON, Acting Manager.

For the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

For the NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED, G. W. F. PLAYFAIR, Chief Manager.

For the MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED, J. THURBURN, Manager.

For the BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE, M. DOURDIN, pro. Manager.

For the BANK OF CHINA & JAPAN, LIMITED, HONGKONG, CHANTREY INCHBALD, Manager.

For the YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED, S. CHOH, Agent.

For the IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA, E. W. RUTTER, Manager.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1899. [171a]

CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS. THE Undermentioned INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business, TO-MORROW and SATURDAY, the 10th and 11th instants, respectively.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., General Agents. CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LD. General Managers.

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED. W. J. SAUNDERS, Acting Secretary.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LD. W. H. PERCIVAL, Agent.

NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE CO., LD. W. H. RAY, Secretary.

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE CO., LIMITED. SHEWAN TOMES & Co., Agents.

YANOTSE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED. G. L. TOMLIN, Acting Secretary.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LD. W. H. T. DAVIS, Manager.

THE STRAITS INSURANCE CO., LD. Hongkong, 6th February, 1899. [168a]

THE HONGKONG DEVONIAN SOCIETY. THE ANNUAL DINNER of the above Society will be held at the HONGKONG CLUB, on WEDNESDAY, the 15th February, at 8 P.M.

Devonians wishing to join the Society are requested to apply to the Underigned. —MOWBRAY S. NORTHGOTE, Acting Hon. Secretary. Hongkong, 3rd February, 1899. [164a]

THE GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LIMITED. IN accordance with this Company's Articles of Association, Interest at the Rate of 12 PER CENT PER ANNUM is being charged on all unpaid CALLS.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., General Manager. Hongkong, 20th January, 1899. [101a]

THE HONGKONG COTTON SPINNING WEAVING AND DYING CO., LIMITED. FULLY-PAID UP SCRIP for Shares in this Company can now be exchanged for New Certificates at the Office of the Underigned.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., General Manager. Hongkong, 6th February, 1899. [184a]

NOTICE. PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO., OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP CO. TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

